BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH

INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1969



STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J. B. Stafford, L.R.C.P. (Ed.)., L.R.C.S. (Ed.)
L.R.C.P. & S., (Glas.) D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

Mr. D. Ward Griffiths, F.F.S., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

TO THE MEMBERS OF

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1969.

POPULATION

The estimated population for mid-1969 was, according to the Registrar-General, 6,990 - which shows a decrease of 230 on last year's estimate of 7.220.

In 1968 the Registrar-General estimated an increase in the population of 650 - the largest increase ever recorded in one year. For the first time for many years there is an estimated decrease in the population.

STATISTICS

The live birth rate of 19.3 per 1,000 of the population is, as usual, above the rate of the country as a whole, where the figure is 16.3. The high birth rate in the Barnack Rural District over the last years is no doubt due to the development of the area and the fact that many houses are occupied by young married people.

The infant mortality rate again compares well with the rate for England and Wales as a whole. Our rate is 15.0 per 1,000 live births, compared with a national rate of 18.0. The stillbirth rate is also lower than that of the country as a whole, being 7.0 compared with 13.0 for England and Wales.

Again our death rate is nearly two-thirds lower than that of the country as a whole - due to the predominantly young population of the area. The crude death rate for 1969 was 4.1 per 1,000 home population, compared with 11.9 for that of England and Wales.

Eight of the 29 deaths were due to malignant disease, and three due to accidental causes (two being motor vehicle accidents). One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis.

CONCLUSION

The health statistics of the area are satisfactory in every way and call for no further comment.

As I leave to take up another appointment I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their co-operation and kindness, to the Clerk of the Council and the Public Health Inspector for their continued help and advice, and to the clerical staff of the County Health Department for their support.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant

JOHN BRYCE STAFFORD
Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Under the County Council Scheme, the services of a district nurse are available in all the villages in the District.

Home Helps

Domestic Home Helps are available under the County Council Scheme. Applications should be made to:-

The Home Help Organiser,
County Health Department,
County Offices, Peterborough.

General Hospital

Acute cases and Maternity admissions are made either to the Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, or the District Hospital, Peterborough. Maternity cases to the Maternity Units under the charge of these hospitals.

Chronic and long-term cases are admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stamford and St. John's Hospital, Peterborough.

Infectious Diseases

Infectious cases are admitted to Peterborough Isolation Hospital, under the Peterborough Hospital Management Committee.

Treatment Centres and Clinics:

(a) Provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council

Child Health Centres:

(i)	Village Hall, Barnack	....	Third Thursday afternoon in each month.
(ii)	Parish Hall, Wittering	....	First and third Wednesday 10-12 2-4 in each month
(iii)	Reading Room, Bainton	....	Second Monday afternoon in each month

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Provided under the General Practitioner Services of the National Health Acts.

(b) Provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

Tuberculosis:

Tuberculosis cases are seen at the Chest Clinic, Stamford Hospital, provided by the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Management Committee, or at the Chest Clinic, District Hospital, Peterborough.

Venereal Diseases:

Clinics:	Males	Monday 4.30-6.30 Wednesday 5.30-7
District Hospital, Peterborough.	Females	Tuesday 10.30-12.30 Thursday 4.30-6.30

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

AREA ..... 15,256 acres

POPULATION (Estimated mid-1969) 6,990

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES ([redacted]) 1,194

RATEABLE VALUE (April 1969) .....£183,309.....

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE .....£801.....

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Males	Females	Total	England & Wales
Legitimate	64	64	128	
Illegitimate	1	6	7	
Total	65	70	135	

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 home population	19.3	16.3
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate	1.85	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births.	5.0	8.0

STILLBIRTHS

Males	Females	Total
-	1	1

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births.	7.0	13.0

INFANT DEATHS (Under one year)

Males	Females	Total
-	2	2

Infant Mortality Rate	15.0	18.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under one week) of age.	15.0	23.0

DEATHS

Males	Females	Total
15	14	29

Crude death rate per 1,000 home population.	4.1	11.9
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate.	.74	1.00

STATISTICS OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles	132
Scarlet Fever	5
Pneumonia	-
Sonne Dysentery	1
Infectious Hepatitis	1
Whooping Cough	1
Tuberculosis	2
Meningitis	1
TOTAL	143

International Statistical Classification of Diseases

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1969

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	3	5
Other forms of heart disease	1	1
Cerebrovascular disease	2	-
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis and emphysema	2	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	2
All other accidents	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	15	14

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A P P E N D I X 1.

Factories Act - 1961

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 by Local Authorities.	1	1	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	7	4	-	-
Other Premises	17	13	-	-
TOTAL	25	28	-	-

NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness.	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Floor Drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a. Insufficient					
b. Unsuitable	2	-	1	1	-
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	2	1	1	-

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my 19th Annual Report, this for the year 1969. In November I completed 21 years (part and full-time service) with the Barnack R.D.C., and as such am the longest serving officer with the Council.

STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Water Supplies	17
Refuse Collection and Disposal	80
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	240
Factories and Workshops	18
Housing (other than Council Houses)	60
Council House Maintenance	390
Building	460
Infectious Diseases	6
Food Preparation (including School Kitchens)	24
Rodent Control	104
Miscellaneous	170
	1,569

BUILDING CONTROL AND PLANNING REGULATIONS.

79 plans were deposited and approved under the Public Health Acts, Building and Planning Regulations. This number included 21 abbreviated applications for sewer connections in Thornhaugh and Wansford.

Conversions, adaptations and improvements.	24
New Private Dwellings.	44
Sanitary Conveniences, Drainage etc.	27
Private Garages and Car Ports.	8
Agricultural Buildings.	1
Factory Alterations etc.	1
Other Commercial.	14
Works by Public Undertakings.	2
Planning and Advertisement Applications.	8
Outline Planning Applications only.	11

The 'Sharen' type of house was erected in Wansford by the Netherton Building and Construction Co. and was selected by "Woman's Journal" as show house of the year.

The following applications were refused under the Planning Code:-

2 Building Plots at Wothorpe.
Conversion to Shop at Wittering
Building Plot at Wothorpe.
Illuminated signs at 2 Service Stations.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

2 Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grant were approved for 2 dwellings to the value of £2,000.

9 Applications for Standard Grants to 13 dwellings were approved to the value of £1,732.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of Factories registered during the year remained the same as previously (25), the majority being one-man businesses and building operations in respect of which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Council. Periodic inspections were made and at the end of the year 2 defects found, one of which had been referred by the H.M. Inspector, had not been complied with.

SHOPS ACTS.

The number of shops registered was 15. The standard of hygiene was again found to be generally satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

There was an increase of one registration during the year, making a total of 15. All ice cream retailed in the district was sold in pre-packed containers.

As a result of electricity cuts in May at Ufford, and June at Bainton, a considerable quantity of frozen food and ice-cream in shop refrigerators was considered unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrended and condemned. Condemnation Notes were issued to the shop keepers concerned.

POULTRY INSPECTION.

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, but once again no terminal disinfection was carried out. A case of Sonne' Dysentry was notified in the case of a girl of 5½ and 2 cases of Tuberculosis were notified, one in R.A.F. Quarters and the other an elderly person. Terminal disinfection was carried out in the latter case.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS YARDS.

No such premises in the District.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

No such premises in the District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

There are now two such establishments registered in the district, both of which comply with the provisions of the Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACTS, 1963.

There are 12 registered premises in the District. Once again the administration of this Act has been of a routine nature and there is nothing special to report.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Free service of disinfestation was available for any domestic premises affected. Free treatment of domestic premises was given on 63 occasions necessitating a total of 104 visits. Very little work of inspection and treatment was given to farm premises.

Once again a systematic inspection and disinfestation of public sewers was carried out together with disinfestation as necessary of the various sewage treatment works.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(a) Pilsgate, Barnack, Bainton and Ufford. These Parishes discharge after pumping, to a Sewage Treatment Works at Tallington Road, Bainton, with the final effluent discharging to the River Welland in Summer months, and to the nearby stream in Winter months when the flow of water therein gives sufficient dilution.

In February a site meeting took place at Ashton between various interested bodies to discuss the causes of obstruction and cleansing of various roadside dykes to prevent inundations of carriageways and to reduce infiltration of surface water into the sewerage system.

Infiltration of surface water into the sewers at Barnack again occurred and an attempt at locating the suspect lengths of sewers convinced me that the most obvious and economical answer to this problem was the installation of storm water relief overflows.

The capacity of the pumping station at Bainton was exceeded on two occasions in May, after abnormally heavy rain had inundated the system. This was partially relieved by pumping to the Bainton dyke on both occasions.

A major repair to one of the pumps in the Bainton Pump House was carried out during the year.

(b) St. Martin's Without and Wothorpe. The drainage from these two Parishes is pumped into the Stamford Borough's Sewerage System.

As a result of infiltrations during previous years, during the year consent was obtained from the Welland and Nene River Board to construct a storm water overflow from the Sewerage system in Wothorpe to a nearby dyke. The work was completed by the end of the year, the necessary easements having been obtained from the Burghley Estate and tenant farmer.

A defective electric motor in the Pump House was repaired, rewound etc. during the year.

(c) Wittering. Novel features of this scheme, commissioned during the previous year, included disposal of fine activated sludge over adjoining land through a rain gun irrigation system, which, subject to certain precautions, benefits the local farmer.

It also includes tertiary treatment of the effluent by upward flow clarifiers on the Banks principle and the continued use of sludge/straw composting (reducing manual work to a minimum) which has proved such a success over the past years.

Once again there appeared to be a general shortage of straw, on which the efficiency of this works depends, but due to the co-operation of the tenant farmer a free supply of straw was made available, the Council paying for cost of baling.

(d) Wansford and Thornhaugh. This new scheme was partially commissioned on 9th April, 1969, It includes 2 ejector stations, 2 lengths of pumping mains, gravity sewers, the final effluent being pumped to an "Oxigest" Unit with tertiary grass plot treatment. The Forestry Commission was called in to advise on a suitable tree planting scheme for the latter area.

A novel feature of this scheme is the use of P.V.C. gravity sewers laid in 30 ft. lengths, but unfortunately many fractures of these pipes had to be rectified after laying.

At the end of the year a total of 71 properties had been connected to this scheme. It was evident that certain teething troubles would be encountered including the type of magnetic clutch motors installed in the Wansford Pumphouse.

(e) Southorpe. This is a small and straggling hamlet where the installation of main drainage would be very expensive. As this area at the moment is not favoured by the County Planning Authority for any development other than the odd selective infilling, I cannot see that a sewerage system will be installed in the foreseeable future.

(f) Samples. 10 samples of sewage effluent were taken during the year with the following results.

	Entirely Satisfactory	Partially Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Wittering	3	1	-	4
Bainton	1	2	2	5
Wansford	1			1

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Once again I have to report that the weekly scheme of refuse collection inaugurated in 1960 worked well, despite breakdowns, holidays and turnover of labour. One 18-24 cu.yd. refuse and two men are still able to manage this service in spite of increasing numbers of properties in the area. This is possible due mainly to the fact that from time to time a simple bonus system is agreed, which it is possible to do in such a repetitive job.

The refuse is disposed by controlled tipping on the Refuse tip on the Kings Cliffe Road, Wansford, operated by the Stamford Borough Council, on repayment of £65 per annum. Under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 Local Authorities are obliged to remove bulky household refuse free of charge. Such refuse cannot be taken during normal collections, but arrangements can be made for this service on Saturday mornings, necessitating overtime by the workmen.

As far as this District is concerned I am advising applicants that this tip is the disposal point for any refuse, including derelict cars, provided that prior permission is obtained.

During the year new tyres, new clutch and new pressure pipes were necessary. During the week's holiday taken by the operators I had the body of the refuse vehicle painted.

WATER SAMPLES.

Only a few isolated properties are not served by water mains and there are no stand pipes within the District.

Samples from the public supplies in the area were taken at regular intervals by the South Lincs. Water Board. Two water samples were taken from a well to a farmhouse, and both proved to be satisfactory. Two further samples were taken from another isolated property, one of which proved to be suspicious. A chemical sample taken from the same source was generally satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOLS.

4 samples of water were taken from each of the Adult and Infants' Pools at R.A.F. Wittering. As a result of a bad sample, the Adult Pool was closed for 3 days, during which time the chlorinating and filtering equipments were checked.

2 samples were taken from the newly constructed Barnack School Pool and each proved to be suspect. As a result, the manufacturers were approached regarding the filtering equipment.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

Minor repairs are carried out by Council Workmen and other repairs by local Building Contractors.

All Pre-War Council houses in the area have now been improved.

The painting of 45 houses was approved during the year. Earth leakage trips were provided in houses at Wansford and Park View, St. Martins. During the year an attempt was made to cost the work of woodworm disinfestation in some of the older types of property.

A block of 12 garages at Little Northfields, Barnack, was constructed during the year at a total cost of £1,616 14s. 4d. Three garages at Barnack Road, St. Martins, were completed during the year at a cost of £998 15s. 9d. A further block of 6 garages was being constructed at Orchard Road, Barnack, at the end of the year.

At the end of the year the Ministry had agreed to allow the expenditure of £5,850 (sale proceeds of land) for the replacement of combination ranges in 130 Council houses.

NEW COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING.

There was no building programme in operation in the year under review.

During the year the Council decided to dispose of parcels of building land surplus to requirements.

CARAVAN SITES.

There are no authorised sites in the area.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Approximately 20 houses were repaired during the year as a result of informal action.

As reported last year the number of totally unfit properties in the District is now minimal, so much so that the Ministry's definition of housing need would appear not to apply in this area.

WORKMEN.

Once again there has been a frequent turnover of labour, 3 workmen being appointed, and 4 workmen terminating their employment during the year.

BURGHLEY HORSE TRIALS.

Once again this 3-day event was held in Burghley Park in September, which necessitated a period of comparatively intensive work in inspecting and checking on various food establishments, food handlers etc.

NO. 4 GAS FEEDER PIPE.

This 36" diam. gas pipe line was installed through the area in September and October, 1969.

D. Ward Griffiths
(F.F.S., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.

7th September, 1970.